



FEMISE Annual Conference 2010

23-24 November 2010

Grand Hotel Plaza, Rome, Italy

Concept note

Theme: "Structural Transformation and the Role of the EU-Med Partnership"

I. Background

Over the past few decades, the southern Mediterranean Partners countries (MPs) have attempted to diversify their economies with a view of converging with the living standards in advanced countries, in Europe and elsewhere. The EU-Med partnership was intended to help speed up the process of structural transformation in these countries for the benefit of both parties. Unfortunately, the track record so far indicates that only modest progress has been made. Hence, the focus of the upcoming FEMISE annual conference, which will be held in Rome, Italy on (23-24 November), is on this issue.

The conference will include plenary sessions and will also involve a number of parallel sessions and a general assembly for the members of the network. It will offer an opportunity for members of the network, academics, policymakers and representatives of the EU to engage in a constructive dialogue about such a critical development issue as structural transformation and the role of the EU in supporting the process in the south.

II. Plenary Sessions

The conference will include two plenary sessions that will address the theme of the Conference, one Special session that will address the question of Crisis and a fourth plenary session for the closing and will be followed by the general Assembly. More details about those sessions:

(1) The two plenary sessions I & II of the conference will focus on the following topics.

Plenary I: Structural Transformation: Ask not whether, but how?

(Plénière I : Transformation Structurelle : La question est 'comment' ?)

No issue is more hotly debated in the development literature than selective intervention or industrial policy. Yet, no country has developed without such a policy and without undergoing structural transformation. This session will (i) discuss the case for and against industrial policy, (ii) illustrate the point by drawing on experience, and (iii) explore the more recent vintages of the basis for industrial policy, in particular those advanced by Dani Rodrik and Justin Lin.

Keynote speakers:

1. Mustapha Nabli, World Bank
2. Mohamed Chafiki, DEPF, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Morocco
3. Pierre Deussy, European Commission

Plenary II: Industrial Policy in Practice: The Experience of Developed and developing Countries.

(Plénière II: Politique industrielle en pratique : L'expérience des pays développés et en développement)

Even if the case is clear for selective intervention, the question is under what conditions does this policy lead to the kind of structural transformation that is consistent with long term growth. This session will (i) explore the conditions under which industrial policy works, (ii) illustrates these conditions in the context of recent experiences of developing countries (South Korea, China, Turkey, Brazil. etc), (iii) suggest a way forward for the southern med countries, and (iv) prescribe a possible role of the EU-Med partnership in the process.

Keynote speakers:

1. Khalid Sekkat Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
2. Suk Joon Kim, President of Science and Technology Policy Institute, South Korea
3. Esen Caglar, TEPAV (Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey), Turkey

(2) Special Session on "Crisis and Recovery Measures for the Mediterranean Partners Countries"

This special session will address the issue of crisis with a special focus on the recovery measures for the Mediterranean Partners countries and how to avoid these negative impacts in the future.

Keynote speakers:

1. Lino Cardarelli, Deputy Secretary General of the UfM in charge of economic affairs and project financing
2. Jean-Louis Reiffers, President of Scientific Committee & Coordinator of FEMISE
3. Simon Neaime, American University of Beirut, Lebanon
4. Michael Gasiorek, Sussex University, UK

(3) Closing Session and General Assembly Meeting

The Closing session will address issues related to the EU-Med relations. FEMISE network members will also participate to their annual General Assembly to discuss the activities and progress achieved by FEMISE.

III. Parallel sessions:

The conference will include 4 parallel sessions, 2 sessions per day. These will include presentations of selected FEMISE research reports that have been produced this year. These sessions will be on the following topics: Convergence of macroeconomic indicators; Divestiture and trade liberalization; Banking sector and the impact of remittances on growth; Business environment and firms' behaviour.

Venue of the Conference: Place: Grand Hotel Plaza, Via del Corso 126, Rome, Italy.



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AGENDA

Theme: "Structural Transformation and the Role of the EU-Med Partnership"

DAY ONE : 23 November, 2010			
08:30-09:00	<i>Welcome and Registration of participants</i>		
09:00-09:30	Opening Remarks and Welcome Note by the Coordinators <i>Ahmed Galal, President & Coordinator of FEMISE and ERF Managing Director</i> <i>Jean-Louis Reiffers, President of Scientific Committee & Coordinator of FEMISE</i>		
09:30-11:30	Plenary Session I: Structural Transformation: Ask not whether, but how? Moderator: <i>Ahmed Galal, President & Coordinator of FEMISE and ERF Managing Director</i>		
	Keynote Speakers: Mustapha Nabli, World Bank Mohamed Chafiki, DEPF, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Morocco Pierre Deusy, European Commission		
11:30-12:00	Coffee Break		
12:00-14:00	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> Parallel Sessions (1A): Impact of macroeconomic policies on growth and convergence <i>Moderator & Discussant:</i> <i>Sergio Alessandrini, University of Modena, Italy</i> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> Parallel Sessions (1B): Business environment, clustering and firms performance <i>Moderator & Discussant:</i> <i>Fouzji Mourji, LASAARE, Morocco</i> </td> </tr> </table>	Parallel Sessions (1A): Impact of macroeconomic policies on growth and convergence <i>Moderator & Discussant:</i> <i>Sergio Alessandrini, University of Modena, Italy</i>	Parallel Sessions (1B): Business environment, clustering and firms performance <i>Moderator & Discussant:</i> <i>Fouzji Mourji, LASAARE, Morocco</i>
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14:00-15:30	Lunch		

15:30-17:30	Special Session on "Crisis and Recovery Measures for the Mediterranean Partners Countries" Moderator: <i>Jean-Louis Reiffers, President of Scientific Committee & Coordinator of FEMISE</i>
	Keynote Speakers: Lino Cardarelli, Deputy Secretary General of the UfM in charge of economic affairs and project financing Jean-Louis Reiffers, President of Scientific Committee & Coordinator of FEMISE Simon Neaime, American University of Beirut, Lebanon Michael Gasiorek, Sussex University, UK
19 :00	Dinner

DAY TWO : 24 November, 2010					
09:00-11:00	Plenary Session II: Industrial Policy in Practice: The Experience of Developed and developing Countries Moderator: <i>Samir Makdisi, American University of Beirut, Lebanon</i>				
	Keynote Speakers: Khalid Sekkat, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium Suk Joon Kim, President of Science and Technology Policy Institute, South Korea Esen Caglar, TEPAV (Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey), Turkey				
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13:30-15:30	Lunch				

15:30-17:00	<i>Closing Session and General Assembly Meeting of the Network Members</i> Moderator: <i>Ahmed Galal, President & Coordinator of FEMISE and ERF Managing Director</i>
	<i>Keynote Speaker:</i> Elisabetta Olivi, Head of the Political Sector, European Commission Representation, Italy <i>Speakers:</i> Ahmed Galal, President & Coordinator of FEMISE and ERF Managing Director Jean-Louis Reiffers, President of Scientific Committee & Coordinator of FEMISE Frederic Blanc, General Manager, FEMISE